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Cats of the Clans

Sunclan

Leader: Wheatstar (A golden short-furred tom with yellow eyes)

Deputy: Lightningtail (Small white tom with black paws and a black tail-tip. Crooked tail and icy blue eyes)

Medicine Cat: Featherfoot (Light gray she-cat with leaf-green eyes and small paws)

Warriors (Toms and she-cats without kits):

Littletail (Tom with stubby tail and brown, dappled fur)

Watershade (Silver she-cat with blue eyes and black markings across body)

Yuccafur (Light brown tom with bright green eyes and a white stripe on his head)

Sharpeyes (Green eyed tom with brown body and grey and white stripes on tail)

Snowfoot (Pure white she-cat with blue eyes) Apprentice: Badgerpaw

Birchfur (One-eyed white tabby she-cat with brown stripes and brown eyes)

Hawkfang (Black and white tom with blue eyes)

Riveroak (Dark brown tom with white stripes and amber eyes) Apprentice: Firepaw

Apprentices:

Badgerpaw (Completely black she-cat with white markings like a

badgers and green eyes)

Firepaw (Black furred tom with dark brown eyes; named after Fierce Spirit)

Queens:

Frosttail (Silvery-gray she-cat with light amber eyes. Kits; Opalkit - she-kit with blue eyes and silver fur, Pinekit - tom-kit with light brown fur and green eyes)

Sparrowfeather (She-cat with russet fur and white stomach and amber eyes. Kits; Redkit - tom-kit with russet fur and black tail tip and paws with amber eyes)

Elders:

Sprucefoot (Tom with mangy brown fur and dark amber eyes)

Darkeyes (Dark amber eyed she-cat with black fur)

Duskclan

Leader: Adderstar (Dark brown tom with envy green eyes and white tail tip)

Deputy: Flowerpelt (A bright yellow she-cat with white under belly and green eyes)

Medicine Cat: Willowcloud (A dark gray she-cat with light blue eyes and black stripes) Apprentice: Rowanpaw (Russet red tom with bright amber eyes and disabled hind leg)

Warriors (Toms and she-cats without kits):

Frostfoot (Black tom with a single white paw and green eyes)

Yewtail (A dark ginger tom with amber eyes and big paws) Apprentice: Juniperpaw

Poppynose (A black tabby tom with brown eyes and black nose)

Turtlepelt (A tortoiseshell tom with amber eyes)

Redbelly (Flame colored she-cat with yellow eyes and white paws)
Apprentice: Flamepaw

Twigleg (Light brown tabby she-cat with blue eyes and long legs)

Applenose (A molten brown tom with apple green eyes and a white throat and belly)
Apprentice: Daisypaw

Lionstorm (Golden and white tabby tom with green eyes)

Apprentices:

Daisypaw (A white and cream colored she-cat with light blue eyes)

Juniperpaw (A silver, almost blue tom with dark green eyes)

Flamepaw (A flame colored tom with unusual blue eyes)

Queens:

Cactuspelt (Pure white she-cat with spiky fur and green eyes. Kits; Sunkit - Golden tom-kit with green eyes, Spiderkit - Black tom with white paws and tail tip and blazing yellow eyes)

Honeyfur (cream-colored she-cat with golden eyes and fluffy fur. Kits; Leafkit - tortoiseshell she-kit with green eyes, Petalkit - White she-kit with big yellow eyes)

Dewnose (Black she-cat with amber eyes and light pink nose; Expecting Poppynose's kits)

Elders:

Berryheart (An Elderly white she-cat with muzzle gray with age and faded green eyes)

NoEyes (Light brown tom with eyes scratched out and torn ears)

Jaggedclaw (Silver tom with pointy long claws and brown eyes)

Shrewclan

Leader:
Mousestar (She-cat with dark blue eyes and light grey fur)

Deputy:
Willowfern (Long, light brown she-cat with dark amber eyes)

Medicine Cat:
Mintfur (has an unnatural scent of mint, tom with light green eyes and light brown fur)
Apprentice: Longpaw (Small tom with a long tail, brown fur and blue eyes)

Warriors:
Blackmoon (All black she-cat with white paws and blue eyes)

Adderstrike (Light brown she-cat with yellow eyes)

Mapletail (She-cat with light ginger fur and blue eyes)

Thistlefoot (Molten brown tom with spiky fur and grass green eyes)
Apprentice: Cherrypaw

Thunderfeet (Large paws and dark ginger fur, tom with amber eyes)
Apprentice: Riverpaw

Acorntail (Tom with light brown fur and green eyes)

Alderfoot (Dark grey tom with single white paw and golden eyes)

Apprentices:
Riverpaw (Dark grey tom with bright blue eyes)

Cherrypaw (russet furred she-cat and green eyes)

Queens:
Birdflight (spastic she-cat with silver fur and green eyes, kits: Jaggedkit-tom-kit with black fur and white paws and yellow eyes, Featherkit- silver furred she-kit with blue eyes)

Elders:
Stonetail (tom with dark grey with blue eyes)

Swampclan

Leader: Fogstar (Silver tom with dark grey stripes and golden eyes)
Apprentice: Oakpaw

Deputy: Gorgepelt (A sandy colored she-cat with green eyes and white belly)

Medicine Cat: Sunstorm (Old, bright yellow she-cat with dark golden pa was and golden tail tip and blue eyes)
Apprentice: Beetlepaw (A russet red tom with brown hind paws and a black nose and tip of tail)

Warriors (Toms and She-cats without kits):

Willowpond (A silver and gray tabby she-cat with icy blue eyes)

Berrytail (A long haired, cream colored tom with hazel eyes)

Poppypool (An unusually black spotted golden tom with amber eyes)
Apprentice: Dovepaw

Tigerfang (Dark brown tabby tom with faded gold eyes and sharp yellow teeth)
Apprentice: Sparrowpaw

Bumblepelt (A snow colored she-cat with molten brown stripes across back and tail and yellow eyes)

Ivynose (Small grey she-cat with slightly larger nose and green eyes)
Apprentice: Hawkpaw

Sagestorm (Light brown tom with dark green eyes and large paws)

Apprentices:

Dovepaw (A white, long furred she-cat with blue eyes)

Sparrowpaw (A russet brown tom with amber eyes and small paws)

Hawkpaw (A white and brown tabby tom with molten brown eyes large ears)

Queens:

Tulipfur (A soft furred white she-cat with yellow eyes. Kits; Foxkit - dark ginger she-kit with green eyes, Sugarkit - white she-kit with light blue eyes)

Dewfrost (Light gray she-cat with amber eyes. Expecting Berrytail's kits)

Elders:

Fernpelt (light brown she-cat with amber eyes, half deaf)

Toadlegs (An elderly black tom with green eyes and an incredible leap)

Cats outside the clans:

Flower (Plump cream colored she-cat with blue eyes)

Velvet (A plump ginger and white she-cat with green eyes; Kittypet)

Hunter (Brown tabby tom with amber eyes; Loner)

William (Agressive grey rogue tom with brown eyes)

Prologue

Rain blasted the forest floor and thunder roared louder than any monster known. A molten brown tom cat bolted through the forest, his fur plastered to his sides and fear-scent surrounding him like a pack of hungry foxes.

"Kill him!" A tom's yowl broke through the rain. Several other cats began chasing after the tom, hard on his paws. A bright yellow she-cat was not too far behind him and her eyes blazed in the rain.

The molten tom pushed harder as he left the forest and hit the moorland. His breath came in short pants as he launched himself uphill in hope of losing them.

He turned his head to check, they had vanished from his view. He pressed harder and found stopped to catch his breath by a big rock.

"Mouse-brained fool! Did you think it was that easy? After him- *Kill* him!" The tom yowled as he hurled himself towards the tired tom.

He leaped up the rock and rounded around them and ran down hill. Strength bursted through his muscles as he sped downhill and back into the forest. As he noticed they were not on his trail, he ran under tree root and into an abandoned fox den. As he caught his breath, a shape padded into the opening, two appearing behind him.

"You should have left when you were told to." He hissed, his neck fur bristling and his teeth bared.

"You were warned to be gone before dawn, or you'd pay with your life." The tom snarled,

"Kill him." He comanded the to she- cats. The golden she-cat padded slowly towards him, her fur fluffed out and her hackles rising.

"I can't. I can't kill my brother, not even for my leader." The long-

legged brown she-cat backed out, her head hung low.

"Fine." The leader leaped at the soaked tom, and the golden she-cat tore at him as well. The light brown she cat watched in horror as her brother was torn apart in front of her.

His wails of agony was soon cut short as the leader tore at his throat.

The brown she cat cried in grief as her broth slowly bled out on the muddy floor under the tree.

"Let me bury him, please." She begged, grief clouded her eyes, she had just lost her brother.

"Very well. Bury him here and be back before dusk." The leader hissed, taking the yellow she-cat back with her. She murmured her thanks and wailed as she collapsed beside him. Her last littermate had died, and she was alone in her clan.

She had to calm herself. He was to be buried. She stumbled as she stood up, and gripped his hind paws between her teeth. She pulled him out, and began digging. It took ages to finish that hole, but it was done. She pulled his body inside it. She ran out, straight the shared border with Sunclan.

A silver she-cat with black markings was patroling and plump. She looked startled by the long legged she-cats approach, but didnt look scared.

"Great Starclan, what's wrong?" she hissed nervously.

"He's dead."

Chapter 1

A sleek, silver she-cat lay in wait, watching a small brown mouse pad towards her. She shifted her haunches and prepared to pounce on the unsuspecting creature. Just as the mouse got closer, the wind changed and it caught scent of the she - cat and it turned around and started for a bush on the side of the small clearing. The cat set off after it in a silver blur, and pounced.

The mouse let out a little squeal before the she - cat swiftly clamped her jaws upon it and broke it's neck.

"Nice catch, Watershade." a molten brown tom says as he steps out of the bushes. He walks towards her and she picks up the scent of fox dung coming from him.

"Applenose! You can't be here! It isn't safe!" she hisses as she moves towards him, rubbing her head against his, forgetting the mouse on the ground.

"I needed to see you. I couldn't wait for the next gathering." He purred as he intertwined his tail with hers.

"The next gathering is tonight. You couldn't have waited till then? It would have been much safer for the both of us."

"I'm not going to this gathering. Adderstar has asked me to watch the camp with Twigleg and Turtlepelt. Tensions have been high with Swampclan ever since the battle over the Crystal River." He mewed, sniffing the mouse.

Watershade frowned at him. The battle for the Crystal River had been going on for moons before Watershade was born, but most cats new that it belonged to Duskclan.

"Let me guess, they are attempting to take it again, aren't they?"

"Your right again, my love. They have patrols come by the border

frequently, marking it each time. It smells like rotting fish more than ever." He wrinkled his nose in disgust.

"That's because they live in a swamp Applenose. Now you must leave before the rest of my patrol finds me," she says as she starts shoving him towards the border. "or worse, finds you." He begrudgingly crosses back with a final goodbye and sprints past the strip of forest they have and onto the moorland.

Watershade decided to quickly kick dirt over her mouse and keep hunting. Straining all her senses to find prey over the sweet scent of her mate mixed with the nasty smell of fox dung. She soon picked up a strong scent of squirrel. She stood still, attempting to locate the squirrel, when movement caught her eye. She spun around to see Lightningtail. Love filled in his eyes as he saw the prey she caught.

"What a beautiful cat you are, and even better hunter." He purred.

As they padded into camp, a squirrel, mouse, finch and starling dangled from their jaws. She felt uncomfortable when others looked warm at the sight of her and Lightningtail together. He was never really her mate, just a decoy to protect Applenose. She always felt guilty that she might be betraying her clan and breaking Lightningtail's heart.

She dropped the fresh-kill onto the pile and padded side by side with Lightningtail over into the shade. They shared tongues in the final rays of the sun as it slowly turned to dusk. She wished she could be with Applenose during the Gathering tonight, but she knew he needed to put his clan first. Wheatstar padded over to the Great Branch, his powerful muscles rippling beneath his pelt as he leaped.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey gather beneath the branch for a clan meeting!" His yowl rang across the entire clearing and cats quickly padded to him. Lightningtail padded to join under the Great Branch and Watershade quickly followed.

"Tonight is the Gathering, and I would appreciate some silence to choose who goes." He snapped at the group of warriors talking in the back. "I would like Watershade, Yuccafur, Badgerpaw, Firepaw,

and Birchfur to come. The rest will stand guard and patrol the area. I'd like a patrol to leave after us to renew the border markers with Sunclan. It has been brought to my attention that a Sunclan warrior has been crossing."

Watershade felt like she had mouse bile in her throat. Someone had scented Applenose over the border. Who did, though?

Wheatstar lifted his tail to signal his cats to follow as he led into the clearing where the four boulders were beside the river. Watershade padded after Snowfoot to meet with some Shrewclan warriors while Wheatstar hopped to his spot on the four rocks.

One by one the leaders started sharing news about their clans. When it was Fogstar's turn he immediately started boasting about Swampclan's recent victory at Crystal River. Anger immediately spread through the crowd of cats, filling anger into the heart of every Duskclan warrior.

"Enough!" Adderstar shouts. "The recent battle was a loss for Duskclan but that does not mean we need to battle on this night of peace."

"Admit it Adderstar, you don't want to talk about it because you don't want to face the fact that you lost!" Fogstar snarled, his ears layed back.

"Enough of this! You only won because we let you!" Adderstar exclaims, his hackles rising and his fur fluffing up, making him look twice his size. Several cats in the crowd hissed at each other when the clouds in the sky moved to cover the moon.

"This is kits play. Starclan will not allow this nonsense!" Wheatstar snapped, trying to calm the two clans. "Look, the clouds are covering the moon. This Gathering is over!" His mew echoed across the clearing and he jumped from the rock and padded to the log that led way to Sunclan territory. He raised her tail to signal her cats to follow and one by one they joined their leader.

As they arrived back, Lightningtail and Watershade curling up in the den next to the other warriors, too tired to

eat or share tongues.

"Watershade, take Firepaw and Birchfur for a hunting patrol. Littletail, take Badgerpaw and Yewtail for a seperate." Lightningtail ordered.

Watershade noddded her response and gathered her clanmates and padded through the tunnel at the edge of camp. The three cats bound through the forest towards the border. When they arrived they decided to split up and search for prey.

"Remember, stay on this side of the border. We don't want at have a run in with a Duskclan patrol." Watershade warns Firepaw as she perks her ears, listening for prey.

"I remember, Watershade. Can we hunt know?" the black apprentice sqealed, fluffing up his fur in anticipation. She dips her head in agreement, and before she lifted back up he had bounded off through the undergrowth in search of his next prey. Birchfur bounded off in the opposite direction, and Watershade devises to stay close to where she is.

She quickly opened her mouth to scent the air. Squirrel prints were in the mud, and the scent trail was fresh. She spotted it near the end of an acorn tree. She positions herself in a hunter's crouch behind a bush. She watched the squirrel as it gnawed on an acorn, trying to rid it of the shell. She padded quietly until it was no more than two tail lengths in front of her before pouncing on it and giving it a swift bite to the neck. She quickly buried the prey under a mound of dirt and set off on a search for more prey when the sound of Firepaw's hissing caught her attention.

She immediately races towards the sound, towards the border. "What is going on here?" she asks as she leaps through the bushes to see a young Duskclan apprentice crossing the border back into his territory.

"Not much, just an intruder!" Firepaw snapped, his fur fluffed up to make him look twice his size.

"It was an accident and you know it!" Applenose says as he walks

towards the border. He stops before he crosses, making sure to not make the situation any worse.

"Applenose, who is this apprentice?" Watershade hissed, looking at the young cat through narrowed eyes.

"This is Juniperpaw. He was just made an apprentice this morning," Yewtail meowed, padding next to Applenose. "and we were just giving him a tour of the territory, what's it to you?" he mewed curtly.

"He was on our side of the border!" She growled, her neck fur slowly rising.

"He was intruding and was going to attack us!" Firepaw snarled, his hackles rising.

"Firepaw, use your head. He was just made an apprentice. What threat does he pose to us right now?" Birchfur scolds the young apprentice. "He probably was exploring and accidently crossed the scent line. Just send him on his way with a warning.. *this* time."

"I-I'm not used to checking for borders." Juniperpaw lowered his head in guilt.

"See, just big misunderstanding. Firepaw is sorry for disrupting your tour, Juniperpaw. We will get back on with our patrol," Birchfur mewed respectfully as he began to pad back to his hunting.

Yewtail nudges Juniperpaw and he lets out a little squeak. "Sorry for interrupting your hunting!" the apprentice yowled out. Watershade nudged Firepaw who nodded his head in acceptance and raced back into the forest.

Watershade managed to catch a rabbit and another squirrel before heading back into camp. She placed her catches on the fresh-kill pile and padded to bring one to Berryheart. She set the prey near the opening of the den and heard the mewls of excitement come from within.

The elders must be telling the kits another story. She thought to herself as she padded away to lie in the sun.

"Watershade," A voice sounded in her ears. She looked up to see Lightningtail, joy in his eyes as he nudged her with his muzzle. "Wheatstar is making Opalkit and Pinekit apprentices! He asked me to tell you that you will be Pinekit's mentor, and that I will be Opalkit's."
He pressed his cheek against hers.

"That's great news!" She purred, standing up and padding over as Wheatstar leaped onto the branch. She called the clan meeting, and in moments the clearing was full, with Opalkit and Pinekit groomed by their mother fiercely at the bottom of the branch. Opalkit's eyes shined with excitement and curiosity while her brother, Pinekit looked nervous and shy.

"Opalkit, will you please come up here." Opalkit squealed with excitement and bounded up the tree branch to her leader. " Opalkit, you have reached the age of six moons, and it is time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Opalpaw. Your mentor will be Lightningtail. I hope Lighningtail will pass down all he knows on to you."

She jumped down to touch noses with lightningtail, while Wheatstar beckoned Pinekit up with her tail.

He skiddishly waltzed up to the tree branch. About half way to her, he lost his balance and tumbled off the branch with a shriek escaping his throat.

With a thump he hit the ground.

"Pinekit!" Frosttail screeched as she bounded over to him. His leg was bent at an odd angle. Watershade open her mouth to call for Featherfoot, but closed it once she saw that she was already checking Pinekit's injury.

"It hurts!" Pinekit squealed.

"Watershade, Frosttail I need you to hold him." She called to them. Watershade quickly padded over, while Frosttail was already with her. "His leg isn't broken, thank Starclan, but its dislocated. We

have to put it back in place. Watershade put your paws here, Frosttail, yours there." She pointed with her tail. They hurried over and placed their paws in position.

She grabbed his leg with her teeth, and pushed.

Pinekit squealed, and Frosttail whimpered with worry. She frantically licked his face, trying to sooth him.

"You hurt him!" Opalpaw squeaked.

"Hey, it feels better!" Pinekit mewed and relief filled in his mother's eyes.
Watershade relized that he was limping when he got up.

"Featherfoot, is he okay for training and or hunting?" Wheatstar meowed, concern filling his voice.

"No, Wheatstar. His leg is back in place but he still needs to recover from shock, muscle injury, his wrenched shoulder needs healing--"

"Okay, okay. His warrior ceramony will be held when he heals. Lightningtail, take Opalpaw for her tour. Yuccafur, take Littletail and Snowfoot for a hunting patrol. Sharpeyes, take Riveroak, Hawkfang and Badgerpaw for border patrol." He ordered, padding to the fresh-kill pile and into the nursery.

Watershade's heart felt warmed by the sight of the tom's care for his mate and kit. Sparrowfeather's only kit, Redkit, had survived whitecough and was needing to keep his strength up if he were to not catch anything else while so weak. So, Wheatstar made it apart of his routine to take plenty of fresh-kill, soaked-moss for water, and bedding to line the nest for them. She hoped her and Applenose would one day be like that.

Watershade decided to check on her future apprentice. She padded to the medicine den, where Featherfoot was trying to give Pinekit herbs for his shoulder and leg.

"Pinekit, you must take these herbs!" She pleaded, but the kit was looking suspiciously them.

"Why won't you take the herbs, Pinekit? They'll make your injuries better." Watershade murmured softly to him.

"I don't want to take them if they're yucky." He mewled defiantly. Watershade nosed them closer, hoping he would take them.

"If you eat them quickly, you won't taste them as much." she purred as Pinekit caved in and lapped up the herbs. "There, not so bad right?" she meowed, standing up to pad out the den.

"I guess. I'm sleepy, Featherfoot." He yawned, placing his head on his paws.

The wind whistled in Watershade's ears as she ran through forest. Applenose would be waiting for her just beyond the border at his favorite tree; The Great Oak. They'd share tongues under the trees roots in an old fox den.

She scented around, to know for sure she wouldn't be seen or followed. When she was sure no one would see her, she rolled in a patch of rotting mushrooms and sprinted across the border. The tree was in sight, no patrol could be scented, heard, or scene.

She padded quietly into the abandoned den, waiting for Applenose.

"Watershade? Are you there?" Applenose stuck his head in, joy gleaming in his eyes as he saw his mate.

"Applenose!" she purred as she ran to him and rubbed her head along his side. "Oh how I've missed you."

"I've missed you too my love." he says as he stares into eyes. They settle down in the tree, sharing secret words of love and life. Eventually they fall asleep, warmed by each other's heat.

"Watershade! Watershade, where are you?"

The silver she-cat doesn't wake, to warm and comfortable to bother.

"Watershade! If your out here, please respond!"

The she-cat groans and buries her head into her paws.

"Watershade! Where did you disappear to?"

That voice woke her. She quickly gets up and runs out, leaving Applenose to rest.

"Im right here Lightningtail!" she yowls as she runs towards him. When he spotted her he pounced, on top of her and nuzzled her.

"I searched the camp for you, but no one knew where you went!"

"I couldn't sleep so I had gone for a walk and I must have fallen asleep."

"Next time tell someone before you leave. Don't ever scare me like that again." he purred with love in his eyes.

She winced at his gaze, although she returned a loving gaze and hoping he couldn't smell Applenose on her pelt. He gets off of her and heads back to camp with the small patrol he gathered with Watershade close behind.

"Why don't we go hunting together? A hunting patrol hasnt been made since sunhigh." Lightningtail meowed, already scenting the air.

"I would, but i promised the check up on Pinekit and bring him a shrew from the fresh-pile." She padded after Yuccafur and Badgerpaw. Lightningtail shrugged it off, bounding into the forest in search of prey.

"A shrew!" Pinekit's excited mew sounded in her ears as she padded to the medicine den with fresh-kill dangling from her jaw. Pinekit was lying in the sun, letting the warm soak into his light brown fur.

"Just for you, Pinekit. I got the first one and its still warm." she lied it down next to him, surprised at how fast he was eating it. "How Featherfoot told you when you can begin your training?"

"She said I will be ready for training in a couple more sunrises, as

long as I be careful." He mewed with his mouth full. Quickly buring the bones, she lied next to him in the sun as it lured her to sleep.

She woke up around moonhigh and went night hunting alone, returning with a couple mice. Her limbs ached and her eyes were droopy. She wanted to curl up and sleep, but she needed to meet Applenose at the Great Oak.

Her dreams had been full of rain. Running through the rain with cats chasing her, though she could not figure out who they were. For a couple heartbeats, she thought they would catch her, until she ran up hill. She panted with effort, unable to speak. It felt like moons before she caught her breath, when the cats reappeared and chased her down hill.

She heard them spitting and screeching at her, but couldnt make out the words. Right as she ran into the forest, something prodded her in her ribs.

"Watershade? Are you alright?" It was Birchfur, worry flashed in her one eye. "You were moving a lot in your slep, and panting. Are you getting sick?"

"It was just a bad dream. Nothing to worry about." she stood up and stepped over her clanmates, wide awake. shes had this dream for three nights in a row, ever since Pinekit had fallen. As she stepped out, she saw that dawn lights were becoming visible through the trees, and cats were slowly waking up. She arched her back in a luxurious stretch before checking the fresh-kill pile.

A couple starlings, mice, and a magpie. She took a starling for herself, lying beside the pile as she ate. Pinekit was scampering over to her, a bright shine in his eyes. She quickly ate the last morsel and stood up to greet him.

"Watershade, Watershade! Guess what Featherfoot told me!" he panted, his leg and should showing no signs of injury.

"What?" she meowed, tipping her head to the side.

"Im going to be made an apprentice today!"